



**California State Fire Marshal**  
**National Fire Incident Reporting System**

**Data as of:** 03/19/2007 2:45:33PM

**Incident Date Range:**  
01/01/2003 to 12/31/2006

**FDID Range:**  
0 to No Upper Bound

**Incident Type:**  
130 to 138

**Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006**

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
2003								
	Abandoned or discarded materials or products	97	\$151,477	\$30,800	0	0	0	0
	Accidentally turned on, not turned off	3	\$30,200	\$5,000	0	0	0	0
	Animal	3	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Arc from faulty contact, broken conductor	20	\$31,530	\$301	0	0	0	0
	Arc, spark from operating equipment	52	\$152,100	\$27,575	0	0	0	0
	Automatic control failure	24	\$36,700	\$800	0	0	0	0
	Backfire	146	\$238,640	\$18,780	1	0	2	0
	Collision, knock down, run over, turn over	89	\$1,278,450	\$57,000	0	0	4	8
	Cutting, welding too close to combustible	20	\$20,600	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Design deficiency	5	\$0	\$1,500	0	0	0	0
	Design/Manufacture/Installation Deficiency, other	7	\$13,000	\$500	0	0	0	0
	Electrical failure, malfunction, other	344	\$890,053	\$39,000	0	0	0	0
	Equipment not being operated properly	31	\$78,650	\$47,200	0	0	1	0
	Equipment overloaded	15	\$43,002	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Equipment unattended	13	\$128,500	\$9,000	1	0	0	0
	Equipment used for not intended purpose	2	\$600	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Exposure fire	202	\$579,090	\$90,950	0	0	0	0
	Failure to clean	25	\$79,000	\$300	0	0	0	0
	Fire spread or control, other	12	\$61,500	\$30,650	0	0	1	0
	Flammable liquid or gas spilled	103	\$228,550	\$6,300	1	0	0	1
	Flammable liquid used to kindle fire	38	\$135,500	\$3,410	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
	Fluorescent light ballast	1	\$300	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Heat source too close to combustibles.	99	\$196,180	\$74,500	0	0	1	0
	High wind	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Improper container or storage	14	\$8,850	\$350	0	0	0	0
	Improper fuel used	2	\$1,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Improper fueling technique	28	\$9,600	\$1,850	0	0	3	0
	Improper startup	6	\$14,950	\$4,000	0	0	0	0
	Installation deficiency	30	\$96,150	\$2,200	0	0	0	0
	Leak or break	1,151	\$3,094,834	\$387,833	1	0	6	0
	Manual control failure	10	\$8,500	\$2,100	0	0	0	0
	Manufacturing deficiency	1	\$1,042	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Mechanical failure, malfunction, other	1,178	\$3,598,106	\$563,870	4	0	3	1
	Misuse of material or product, other	51	\$120,700	\$8,500	0	0	1	0
	Natural condition, other	8	\$12,800	\$500	0	0	0	0
	None	4,205	\$15,320,568	\$1,316,848	8	0	22	12
	Operational deficiency, other	42	\$85,500	\$6,800	0	0	0	0
	Other factor contributed to ignition	222	\$1,296,130	\$92,205	1	0	3	4
	Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	3	\$5,500	\$10	0	0	0	0
	Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Playing with heat source	12	\$21,010	\$2,550	0	0	1	0
	Rekindle	5	\$1,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Short circuit arc from defective, worn insulation	136	\$213,435	\$51,951	0	0	1	0
	Short circuit arc from mechanical damage	88	\$503,400	\$8,360	0	0	0	1
	Undetermined	717	\$3,179,067	\$319,452	2	0	4	0
	Unspecified short-circuit arc	344	\$1,191,263	\$79,113	0	0	0	0
	Washing part, painting with flammable liquid	2	\$1,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Water caused short-circuit arc	3	\$9,000	\$0	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
2004	Worn out	189	\$361,953	\$13,652	0	0	0	0
	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>\$33,530,480</b>	<b>\$3,305,710</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>27</b>
2004	Abandoned or discarded materials or products	138	\$285,775	\$38,372	0	0	1	0
	Accidentally turned on, not turned off	10	\$94,500	\$700	0	0	1	0
	Agriculture or land management burns	1	\$1,000	\$2,600	0	0	0	0
	Animal	4	\$16,000	\$6,000	0	0	0	0
	Arc from faulty contact, broken conductor	31	\$26,650	\$1,650	0	0	0	0
	Arc, spark from operating equipment	45	\$102,340	\$6,491	0	0	0	0
	Automatic control failure	22	\$105,300	\$2,800	0	0	0	0
	Backfire	137	\$159,298	\$14,154	0	0	1	0
	Collision, knock down, run over, turn over	151	\$1,496,926	\$224,800	0	0	8	6
	Cutting, welding too close to combustible	24	\$45,311	\$26,701	1	0	0	0
	Design deficiency	6	\$30,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Design/Manufacture/Installation Deficiency, other	16	\$26,500	\$1,501	0	0	0	0
	Electrical failure, malfunction, other	535	\$12,523,645	\$829,678	0	0	2	0
	Equipment not being operated properly	44	\$228,201	\$41,300	0	0	0	0
	Equipment overloaded	25	\$77,000	\$13,600	0	0	0	0
	Equipment unattended	13	\$24,400	\$6,050	0	0	0	0
	Equipment used for not intended purpose	6	\$15,500	\$800	0	0	0	0
	Exposure fire	303	\$1,336,181	\$29,956	0	0	0	0
	Failure to clean	41	\$467,500	\$17,350	0	0	0	0
	Fire spread or control, other	13	\$21,000	\$1,900	0	0	0	0
	Flammable liquid or gas spilled	150	\$584,178	\$88,850	0	0	1	0
	Flammable liquid used to kindle fire	64	\$295,001	\$401	0	0	0	0
	Heat source too close to combustibles.	130	\$589,938	\$496,301	0	0	2	0
	High wind	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
	Improper container or storage	19	\$86,250	\$6,300	0	0	1	0
	Improper fuel used	4	\$5,000	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Improper fueling technique	35	\$43,910	\$3,525	0	0	4	0
	Improper startup	2	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Installation deficiency	40	\$108,000	\$2,250	0	0	0	0
	Leak or break	1,344	\$5,028,359	\$271,535	2	0	9	1
	Manual control failure	15	\$155,500	\$18,500	0	0	0	0
	Manufacturing deficiency	1	\$400	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Mechanical failure, malfunction, other	1,671	\$7,756,020	\$1,103,260	0	0	4	1
	Misuse of material or product, other	100	\$407,000	\$51,900	1	0	2	0
	Natural condition, other	15	\$247,250	\$74,000	0	0	1	0
	None	5,973	\$24,898,821	\$1,636,057	2	0	9	2
	Operational deficiency, other	71	\$332,400	\$89,152	0	0	0	0
	Other factor contributed to ignition	421	\$2,854,795	\$272,572	0	0	4	1
	Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	9	\$28,500	\$3,000	0	0	0	0
	Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Playing with heat source	14	\$34,600	\$1,150	0	0	0	0
	Rekindle	7	\$50,000	\$2,200	0	0	0	0
	Short circuit arc from defective, worn insulation	170	\$1,155,010	\$40,480	0	0	0	0
	Short circuit arc from mechanical damage	120	\$392,350	\$16,402	0	0	1	0
	Storm	1	\$4,000	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Undetermined	1,170	\$5,611,290	\$1,031,864	3	0	6	0
	Unspecified short-circuit arc	492	\$1,736,764	\$189,381	0	0	3	0
	Volcanic action	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Water caused short-circuit arc	5	\$7,950	\$12,350	0	0	0	0
	Worn out	267	\$368,618	\$65,322	0	0	0	0
<b>2004</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,878</b>	<b>\$69,865,431</b>	<b>\$6,743,155</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>11</b>

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
<b>2005</b>								
	Abandoned or discarded materials or products	272	\$819,801	\$343,109	0	0	0	0
	Accidentally turned on, not turned off	7	\$22,900	\$2,100	0	0	1	0
	Animal	5	\$3,100	\$50	0	0	0	0
	Arc from faulty contact, broken conductor	24	\$80,650	\$5,750	0	0	0	0
	Arc, spark from operating equipment	93	\$416,850	\$26,771	0	0	0	0
	Automatic control failure	21	\$71,100	\$46,900	0	0	0	0
	Backfire	192	\$251,469	\$12,077	0	0	0	0
	Collision, knock down, run over, turn over	256	\$2,764,777	\$853,604	1	0	24	16
	Construction deficiency	3	\$24,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Cutting, welding too close to combustible	39	\$112,102	\$29,804	0	0	0	0
	Design deficiency	4	\$1,250	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Design/Manufacture/Installation Deficiency, other	13	\$6,800	\$100	0	0	0	0
	Electrical failure, malfunction, other	829	\$2,989,502	\$158,104	1	0	3	0
	Equipment not being operated properly	62	\$128,250	\$34,083	0	0	0	0
	Equipment overloaded	30	\$32,000	\$3,300	0	0	0	0
	Equipment unattended	17	\$91,100	\$6,300	0	0	0	0
	Equipment used for not intended purpose	10	\$40,500	\$3,201	0	0	0	0
	Exposure fire	412	\$2,806,676	\$172,814	0	0	2	1
	Failure to clean	52	\$823,890	\$55,270	0	0	2	0
	Fire spread or control, other	24	\$140,100	\$12,050	0	0	0	0
	Flammable liquid or gas spilled	258	\$1,259,317	\$78,704	0	0	5	3
	Flammable liquid used to kindle fire	151	\$1,099,040	\$31,852	0	0	1	0
	Heat source too close to combustibles.	329	\$1,638,552	\$195,706	0	0	4	0
	High wind	9	\$76,900	\$600	0	0	0	0
	Improper container or storage	33	\$257,050	\$82,750	0	0	1	0
	Improper fuel used	2	\$2,500	\$0	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
	Improper fueling technique	42	\$54,600	\$3,400	0	0	1	0
	Improper startup	7	\$9,000	\$2,000	0	0	0	0
	Installation deficiency	30	\$50,475	\$401	0	0	0	0
	Leak or break	1,335	\$4,539,355	\$429,420	0	0	9	1
	Manual control failure	11	\$18,550	\$6,100	0	0	0	0
	Manufacturing deficiency	6	\$27,300	\$6,000	0	0	0	0
	Mechanical failure, malfunction, other	2,161	\$9,023,319	\$673,695	0	0	5	0
	Misuse of material or product, other	179	\$536,265	\$107,110	0	0	6	1
	Natural condition, other	19	\$67,800	\$11,650	0	0	0	0
	None	5,056	\$20,982,240	\$1,304,357	4	0	14	5
	Operational deficiency, other	98	\$196,050	\$51,450	0	0	1	0
	Other factor contributed to ignition	523	\$4,105,497	\$645,803	0	0	2	4
	Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	12	\$13,000	\$400	0	0	0	0
	Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	2	\$2,800	\$1,500	0	0	0	0
	Playing with heat source	29	\$50,800	\$4,001	0	0	1	0
	Rekindle	4	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Short circuit arc from defective, worn insulation	261	\$672,500	\$53,581	0	0	1	0
	Short circuit arc from mechanical damage	177	\$548,251	\$111,192	0	0	3	3
	Storm	1	\$2,000	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Undetermined	2,229	\$12,722,189	\$794,813	3	0	4	2
	Unspecified short-circuit arc	497	\$2,035,791	\$154,331	0	0	2	0
	Water caused short-circuit arc	10	\$26,500	\$600	0	0	0	0
	Worn out	296	\$500,955	\$38,087	0	0	1	0
	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>16,132</b>	<b>\$72,145,913</b>	<b>\$6,554,890</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>2006</b>								
	Abandoned or discarded materials or products	255	\$1,146,201	\$74,479	0	0	2	1
	Accidentally turned on, not turned off	3	\$31,700	\$500	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
	Agriculture or land management burns	3	\$1,000	\$500	0	0	0	0
	Animal	4	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Arc from faulty contact, broken conductor	19	\$93,300	\$3,750	0	0	1	0
	Arc, spark from operating equipment	55	\$470,900	\$36,651	0	0	0	0
	Automatic control failure	17	\$26,701	\$4,101	0	0	0	0
	Backfire	100	\$171,782	\$25,451	0	0	1	0
	Collision, knock down, run over, turn over	187	\$1,869,251	\$78,904	0	0	5	4
	Construction deficiency	2	\$10,100	\$900	0	0	0	0
	Cutting, welding too close to combustible	33	\$117,851	\$51,126	0	0	0	1
	Design deficiency	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Design/Manufacture/Installation Deficiency, other	12	\$309,500	\$18,500	0	0	0	0
	Electrical failure, malfunction, other	618	\$2,625,637	\$252,147	1	0	3	1
	Equipment not being operated properly	56	\$252,101	\$149,701	0	0	0	0
	Equipment overloaded	25	\$60,407	\$5,301	0	0	0	0
	Equipment unattended	28	\$91,601	\$8,450	0	0	0	0
	Equipment used for not intended purpose	8	\$11,010	\$300	0	0	0	0
	Exposure fire	372	\$2,968,090	\$562,887	0	0	1	0
	Failure to clean	41	\$194,701	\$5,306	0	0	1	0
	Fire spread or control, other	38	\$260,405	\$48,502	1	0	0	0
	Flammable liquid or gas spilled	249	\$1,461,454	\$123,057	0	0	5	3
	Flammable liquid used to kindle fire	165	\$1,512,341	\$187,603	0	0	0	0
	Heat source too close to combustibles.	321	\$1,303,424	\$260,225	1	0	5	0
	High wind	6	\$40,000	\$11,000	0	0	0	0
	Improper container or storage	40	\$222,740	\$16,825	0	0	3	0
	Improper fuel used	3	\$16,500	\$500	0	0	1	0
	Improper fueling technique	32	\$103,501	\$7,203	0	0	2	0
	Improper startup	14	\$133,700	\$6,150	0	0	0	0

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

<u>Incident Year</u>	<u>Primary Factor Contributing To Ignition</u>	<u>Incident Count</u>	<u>Property Losses</u>	<u>Contents Losses</u>	<u>Fire Service Injuries</u>	<u>Fire Service Deaths</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>Civilian Deaths</u>
	Installation deficiency	24	\$59,045	\$7,460	0	0	0	0
	Leak or break	767	\$3,387,804	\$592,319	0	0	6	1
	Manual control failure	7	\$68,810	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Manufacturing deficiency	3	\$1,500	\$500	0	0	0	0
	Mechanical failure, malfunction, other	1,582	\$29,462,136	\$1,470,110	1	0	6	0
	Misuse of material or product, other	196	\$919,242	\$52,771	0	0	4	0
	Natural condition, other	25	\$91,246	\$2,000	0	0	0	0
	None	2,340	\$18,088,324	\$969,585	1	0	11	5
	Operational deficiency, other	61	\$472,906	\$217,466	0	0	0	0
	Other factor contributed to ignition	571	\$4,270,292	\$509,411	0	0	3	6
	Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	4	\$19,500	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	1	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Playing with heat source	36	\$117,700	\$7,400	0	0	0	0
	Rekindle	7	\$15,900	\$0	0	0	0	0
	Short circuit arc from defective, worn insulation	162	\$501,360	\$33,813	0	0	1	0
	Short circuit arc from mechanical damage	130	\$672,500	\$28,851	0	0	1	0
	Undetermined	2,642	\$15,530,716	\$1,567,470	1	0	9	3
	Unspecified short-circuit arc	269	\$943,345	\$187,383	1	0	2	0
	Volcanic action	1	\$3,000	\$3,000	0	0	0	0
	Washing part, painting with flammable liquid	2	\$102,000	\$100	0	0	2	0
	Water caused short-circuit arc	7	\$7,800	\$430	0	0	0	0
	Worn out	183	\$302,652	\$21,683	0	0	0	0
<b>2006</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>\$90,543,676</b>	<b>\$7,611,771</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>25</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>51,537</b>	<b>\$266,085,500</b>	<b>\$24,215,526</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>99</b>



## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

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The data contained in this report comes from the State Fire Marshal's California All Incident Reporting System (CAIRS) data warehouse. Property and contents loss figures, if included herein, are estimates only. These emergency incident statistics, including injury and death counts, are based only upon information submitted to the State Fire Marshal by participating California fire departments. Please note that apparent variations in incident counts and associated losses shown in this report may be solely due to fluctuations in the amount of data submitted to the State Fire Marshal. And while the incoming data is validated according to logical data rules, individual data elements are not always verified for accuracy.

## Vehicle Fires By Cause, 2003 - 2006

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### Parameters:

FDID Range: 0 to No Upper Bound

Incident Date Range: 01/01/2003 to 12/31/2006

Incident Type: 130 to 138

### Selection Criteria:

{Command.FDID}={?FDIDrange} and  
{Command.IN\_STATUS}='V' and  
{Command.IN\_DATE}={?IncidentDateRange}  
and {Command.IN\_TYPE}={?IncidentType}

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//and {Command.ATTRID} = 434

//and {Command.ATTRSEQ}=0